

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 06197 122202Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-06 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 SWF-01

FEA-01 /104 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4975

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 6197

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OAS, XM

SUBJECT: SCCN MEETING ON GSP PRODUCT LIST.

1. SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION AND NEGOTIATION (AN OAS SUBCOMMITTEE) CONVENED ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, COLUMBIA, CHILE, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, JAMAICA, MEXICO, NICARAGUA, NOVEMBER 11; PARAGUAY, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA REPRESENTED, DELEGATIONS FROM PANAMA AND TRINIDAD EXPECTED TO ARRIVE NOVEMBER 12. PRELIMINARY SESSION AGREED ON AGENDA PROVIDING FOR PREPARATION OF LIST OF PRODUCTS OF SPECIAL EXPORT INTEREST TO LATIN AMERICA FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN U.S. GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP). ONLY OTHER AGENDA ITEM WAS CONSIDERATION OF OAS SECRETARIAT PAPER ON HEALTH AND SANITARY MEASURES; USDEL STATED THAT IT WAS UNABLE TO GIVE ANY COMMENTS AT THE TIME ON SECRETARIAT PAPER.

2. USDEL OPENED FIRST WORKING SESSION AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 11 WITH DETAILED PRESENTATION ON STATUS OF TITLE V OF TRADE BILL WITH EMPHASIS ON SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE CHARGES. WITH RESPECT TO MANDATORY BENEFICIARY COUNTRY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GUATEM 06197 122202Z

AMENDMENTS PROPOSAL BY COMMITTEE (E.G. ON OPEC MEMBER-

SHIP, EXPROPRIATION, ETC), USDEL STRESSED A) THAT THESE AMENDMENTS REFLECT SERIOUS CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS, B) THAT THEY MAY BE MODIFIED OR DELETED DURING REMAINING CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL AND C) THE ADMINISTRATION AS OPPOSING THEM. PRESENTATION ALSO INCLUDED FOLLOWING POINTS: A) INTERAGENCY GROUP ON PREPARATION OF PRODUCT LISTS HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO MEET AND WOULD BEGIN INTENSIVE WORK DURING WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18; B) WE HOPE TO HAVE LIST READY TO SEND TO TARIFF COMMISSION SHORTLY AFTER PASSAGE OF THE TRADE BILL EXPECTED MID-DECEMBER; AND C) A REVISED AND MANAGEABLE LIST WILL BE USED AS WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THESE INTERAGENCY CONSULTATIONS AND WILL BETTER ENABLE US TO MEET ITS COMMITMENT (SET OUT IN DECLARATION OF NATELOLCO) TO APPLY GSP IN THE MOST BENEFICIAL MANNER.

3. AFTER USDEL PRESENTATION, SEVERAL DELEGATIONS REQUESTED WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT OF U.S. REMARKS; MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO PERMIT SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE TRANSCRIPT. MEXDEL USED ADJOURNMENT TO CALL FOR LATIN AMERICAN CAUCUS WHICH WILL TRY TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR DRAFTING PRODUCT LIST, WITH PRIORITIES.
ANDREWS

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